



Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are my God and Savior. Psalm 25:5a

Published by the LWML Leader Development Committee

How's Your Vision?

About 20 years ago we had a president in this country who admitted he was not good at "the vision thing." He was not talking about eyesight, either. That is not something you want to hear from the person in control. However, he did surround himself with advisors who were able to help him craft a vision for the future of this nation. Working together toward a common vision, much was accomplished during that administration.

How are you with "the vision thing"? You don't have to be the one who comes up with the vision, but you can certainly latch on to the vision of others. It is simply a matter of finding the proper vision.

I recall a hymn in a Mission Service I attended years ago. It was sung to the tune of "A Hymn of Glory," but the lyrics were different. In the lyrics, the double

"Alleluia!" was replaced with "Catch the vision of God's Mission."

I liked how that hymn expressed the idea of latching on to a good vision of how things could and should be, even if you didn't come up with that vision yourself. And what better vision to follow than that which God has for this world, where the message of Christ is being shared and the Spirit of God is leading more people to faith.

There will be individuals in the church who are good at "the vision thing" and are able to see new and effective ways we can be about our Father's business. We

need to be watching so that we can "catch their vision" and join them in the work God has placed before us all.

*Rev. Michael Mattil,
LWML Junior Pastoral Counselor*

You don't have to be the one who comes up with the vision, but you can certainly latch on to the vision of others.

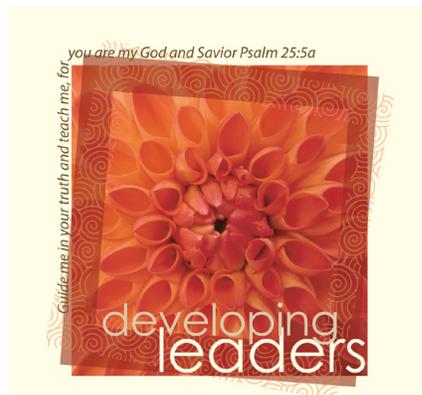


Help to Become Disciplined!

Sometimes when you lead a devotion or Bible study, you may not know how to end it on an encouraging note about your daily walk in life. One of my favorite passages from Scripture comes in handy. It reminds that, as women, everything we do is to God's glory. That includes our work, our family or even scrubbing the toilet. Being thankful and focusing on God's salvation through Jesus' death and resurrection brings us joy and motivates us to do the everyday tasks in life. This passage also reminds us to keep each other accountable. Lean on his Word and each other for support.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:15-17)

Cheryl Mattil



Greetings from the LWML LD Committee

The 2007-2009 Leader Development Committee is ready to serve you! Amy Bartels of Osage Beach, Mo., was a Young Woman Representative to the 2007 LWML Convention in Sioux Falls. Cheryl Mattil of Sherman, Texas, served as Vice President of Christian Life in the Texas District LWML. Patti Ross of Tulsa, Okla., recently completed her term as Oklahoma LWML District President. We welcome Kristy Carter of Springfield, Mo., YWR to the 2007 LWML Convention in Sioux Falls to the Leader Development Committee! Chairman Barb Virus of Orange, Calif., is a past Pacific Southwest District President and served on the LWML Nominating Committee. Jesus is our TEAM Leader and we look to Him for guidance as we seek ways to encourage and support present and future leaders.

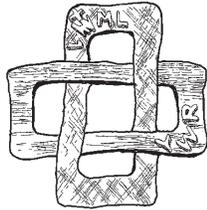


Help Fellow Leaders

Do you have an idea or leader tip to share? Has your district or zone presented a successful leadership event? Share the details with the LWML Leader Development Committee for a possible future *The Team Leader* article. Send your ideas to Barb Virus at bvirus@juno.com.

Act Now

District Presidents and Young Woman Committee Chairmen: It's time to choose Young Woman Representatives (YWR's) to the 2009 LWML Convention in Portland. LWML YWR guidelines are on the LWML



Web site at http://www.lwml.org/resources/young_women/guidelines.html. You will find a sample application form at http://www.lwml.org/resources/young_women/index.html. There are also some suggestions for district leaders to use in encouraging their YWRs. While you are on this page, why not print a copy of *Impressions* to share with your YWR candidates?

Product Promotion

With this year's district conventions and elections, God has called many of you to new leadership positions in your district LWML. Jesus said, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last." (John 15:16) Are you ready? Why not examine what a leader looks like? The LWML publication, "Look of a Leader" is a resource which can be used by an individual woman or in a group session such as an officer training session.

With quotes from well-known authors like John Maxwell and Stephen Covey, you are sure to find help in recognizing leadership traits and suggestions for developing them. This 8-page resource, found on p. 24 of the current LWML Catalog, item #71224, sells for \$1.50. Order one and see how you can have the "Look of a Leader." Call 1-800-252-5965 today or order online (<http://shop.lwml.org>).

Patti Ross

Leader Tip 2008-3

Reaching Out to "New to LWML" Women

- ✓ Do extend a personal, enthusiastic invitation to LWML meetings and events.
- ✓ Do warmly welcome a newcomer to an LWML meeting or event, but don't smother her!
- ✓ Do explain to newcomers how your (society, zone, district) LWML works and why things are done in a certain way.
- ✓ Do encourage a newcomer to ask questions and answer her in a loving, caring manner.
- ✓ Do have a devotion or short Bible study at each LWML event to meet women's spiritual needs.
- ✓ Do survey all women of your congregation for suggestions and opinions of your LWML group. Always take a survey at larger events such as retreats and servant events. Ask for volunteers to help at the next large event.
- ✓ Do find ways of meeting the needs (i.e. child care, meeting times and length, etc.) of the women in the congregation you are trying to attract to your meetings and events.
- ✓ Do offer a variety of meaningful programs to help women grow in faith and encourage them in service to the Lord.
- ✓ Do accept suggestions for changes and improvements without taking them personally; discuss them with your leaders in a non-threatening way.
- ✓ Do be willing to try new and different things.
- ✓ Do make efforts toward frequent personal contact and caring with all women of your congregation.
- ✓ Do affirm women in their gifts and talents by telling them about the ones you recognize and how you appreciate them.
- ✓ Do consistently thank others when they use their gifts in service.
- ✓ Do use the services of your Mission Ministry Vision Consultant and/or District Officers to assist your group in becoming a vital, growing part of your congregation that assists each woman in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

While these suggestions were adapted from a resource developed by the 1995 Committee on Young Women, they are applicable to women of all ages and backgrounds.

*Adapted from "Is Your Society Young Woman Friendly?"
Prepared for the LWML Committee on Young Women, 1995.*

Quotable

"I defined discipline in the beginning of life as the choice of achieving what you really want by doing things you don't really want to do. After successfully doing this for some time, discipline becomes the choice of achieving what you really want by doing things you now want to do."

John Maxwell, *Developing the Leader Within You*